

1/29/15
Week 5 WFL
Sean Lowe

James: What a joy to come into your home. I'm James Robison; Betty and I welcome you.

We've got a very special person, Sean Lowe, *The Bachelor*, *The Bachelorette*, both shows - how in the world does he get on both of them? How does he get on both of them when he seems to do everything wrong according to today's world? In fact, he did everything right according to God's way. And he became kind of someone that you perhaps were curious about or intrigued by but maybe captivated by. I think it was obvious. Girls were, a lot of them here tonight are and rightly so, they should be. Sean has quite a story. And he became a witness on two of the most highly visible prime time television programs that were not wired or geared toward someone being a light and a witness for the greatest person who ever lived, the carpenter of Nazareth, Jesus Christ.

I want you to welcome the one who wrote the book, *For the Right Reasons*, America's favorite Bachelor on faith, love, marriage, and why nice guys finish first.

Would you welcome Sean Lowe to *LIFE Today*?

[Applause]

Sean, good to see you buddy. Thank you for coming!

Sean: Thanks for have me!

James: You don't live far away; right?

Sean: I live in Dallas -- yeah, a short drive.

James: We live between Dallas and Fort Worth in what used to be country. It is called Colleyville/Southlake.

Sean: It's not so country anymore.

James: It's amazing! It's an amazing, amazing thing. What God's done with you is amazing. You went to Kansas State and played football, played at Lamar in Irving in high school, and went to Kansas State, linebacker. You look like you still play. You said you had some concussions, and that will explain to all of you how it is that he was so foolish on television talking about God -- the concussions got him.

Tell me what in the world happened in your life for you to end up with all this visibility, doing something that came natural to you; it was probably really, you look at it now, it must have been supernatural, but what happened with it was supernatural. Tell me a little bit about the journey, your life, or how you got to the point that you're sitting around here and the world is watching and you're reading the Bible.

Sean: Well, I never intended on doing any TV, much less reality TV. I wasn't that type of guy. I don't like attention; I never thought I'd do something like that. I'm entrepreneurial. Me and a couple of partners we started this business. We had high hopes and long story short the business went south and it was hard. We had some investors' money tied up into it and they lost their money and I lost some of my money and it was very difficult for me.

So after that, I said I've got to get into something safe and secure. I can't do anymore of this risk. And the family business is insurance. My dad does insurance, my grandfather did it, my brother-in-law does it. So I had always rebelled against it because I didn't like the idea of sitting behind a desk working nine to five, but I get into insurance anyway. And from the beginning I can't stand it, just like I thought I wouldn't. I did not like it. I used to pray every day, I would say, "God, you know my

heart's desires and you know this isn't necessarily what I want to do but if you want me to be here, I'll be here. But you know I want to do something bigger and outside the box."

Little did I know that my sister would sign me up for *The Bachelorette* and the casting director calls me and she says, "We received your information."

James: What was her sales pitch?

Sean: Well, she calls me and my sister didn't tell me she signed me up.

[Laughter]

She says, "Hi! My name is so-and-so from *The Bachelorette*. I want to talk to you about your application you submitted."

I said, "I didn't submit an application."

It didn't take me long to figure out my sister was behind it. I told her, she was very sweet. But I told her, "Thank you for calling but I have no intentions of doing this."

She said, "Well, why don't you..."

James: Did she send a picture or something?

Sean: My sister sent a picture, yes.

She said, "Why don't you think it over. At the very least it could be a good way to travel the world and you might meet some great friends along the way."

So I go to work the next day, back at the insurance job and I thought, you know a free vacation sounds pretty good!

James: Compared to this, anything is good!

Sean: So I called her back later that week and I said, "Okay. What do I need to do?" I had to submit a couple more videos of myself. The next thing you know I was on *The Bachelorette*.

James: What happened there?

Sean: Well, *The Bachelorette*, there is 25 guys and there's only one girl and you're competing for that girl. And of course, I went on the show just for a free vacation.

[Laughter]

And it was great. When you're not spending time with the girl you're hanging out with the guys. I made a lot of good friends. And we're barbecuing and throwing the football, hanging out by the pool. It was a wonderful vacation.

A long story short I started to develop feelings for the girl as the weeks went on. I thought that maybe God put me on this show to introduce me to her; this is how my life is going to turn out. Towards the end, she didn't see it that way.

[Laughter]

She let me go.

James: You're just a failure!

[Laughter]

Sean: I was! I didn't -- I wasn't sure why God put me on such a strange show as *The Bachelorette*.

About a month after being home in Dallas, after she let me go, the producers of the show called and said, "How would you feel about being *The Bachelor*?"

I told them, "The first one didn't go as planned."

[Laughter]

"I'm not sure about being *The Bachelor*."

They said, "Well, why don't you think it over."

So I told them, "I'll call you at the end of the week."

And I called my parents...

James: Why did they even call you? Were they attracted to you? What led them to come back to you? Was it some of the things they saw you do in the first one?

Sean: That's a good question. I'd like to think... I think America started to fall for me on *The Bachelorette*, a good portion of America anyway that rooted for me and they thought I was going to end up...

James: Because you were the nice guy, you're talking about?

Sean: Sure! I was. I was the nice guy, and the other two remaining guys there at the end, they were probably more of the bad boy type. I think a lot of people kind of latched on to the nice guy and they were sad to see me go there at the end.

James: So they gave you another shot.

Sean: They gave me another shot.

James: And a whole baby??? to choose from.

Betty: How did your parents feel about you doing this?

Sean: It's funny. Going into *The Bachelorette*, of course, all of this is brand new to us.

My mom was a little skeptical, and rightly so because you never know how someone is going to be portrayed on TV.

My dad is more of the train of thought, you only live once, give it a try.

James: Anything is better than insurance!

[Laughter]

Sean: After *The Bachelorette* started to air on television, my mom was able to see that the real me was being shown on TV and it was a good thing, and people were able to see Jesus through me on TV.

So I called them after the producers asked me to be *The Bachelor* and I thought maybe they would say, "The first trip was fun and maybe you should pass on the second one."

This time both of them said, "We feel like God has opened this door for you and you owe it to yourself to walk through it."

James: I see it as a miracle.

Sean: So I called the producers back and I said, "Let's do it."

James: Okay, what happened on that? Now you've got to do the looking and you've got to walk this thing out.

Sean: That's right. You have 25 women and one of me, which is...

James: Did you think you were in Saudi Arabia?

[Laughter]

Sean: It was very overwhelming at times. A lot of it was fun, a lot of it was stressful, especially being the only guy. I didn't -- I didn't have another guy to at least talk to and

bounce ideas off of. I went through the process and we're traveling the world as we go through this thing and having a lot of fun. But at the same time, I'm starting to think seriously, could I see myself with her? Could I see myself with her? Then towards the end...

James: Were any of them making it clear they wished you would see yourself with them?

Sean: A lot of them.

[Laughter]

James: I imagine they were all over the world thinking that too. Really and truly, I honestly believe, I think in every girl's heart, number one you want to be the queen, you want to be the greatest thing in a guy's life. I think every girl, every little girl, our little girls and our six granddaughters, "Watch me! Look! See me!" They want to look pretty. They want to feel pretty. They want to be desired. Know they are desirable and they want to be loved in a way that they feel safe, in a way they want both a father-type figure, someone they respect, look up to, admire, but know really, really cares about them.

I think they don't want it to be like some scatter-brained, irresponsible, self-absorbed individual, which is what we see far too much of. God knows we need a miracle in the lives of men, and see what a lot of them saw in you. So they had every right reason to be attracted to what they saw.

Tell us more about the journey.

Sean: Well, as time goes on every week the girls get fewer and fewer; I've got to send them home. As the weeks progressed, Catherine and I started to develop this relationship. And there towards the end I just had a peace that I knew that I didn't want to spend the rest of my life without her. She was just really infectious, her personality.

James: Where was her home, originally?

Sean: Seattle, Washington. So you can imagine moving from Seattle to Dallas is a tremendous change for her. And then at the very end I felt confident enough in our relationship and I knew that I didn't want to spend my life without her, that I got down on one knee...

James: Could she tell this was coming? Or did you surprise her at all?

Sean: There was a bit of a surprise and the producers made it clear to me. They said, "You cannot give it away."

I couldn't tell her secretly off camera, "Hey, you're the one for me." They want that element of surprise; they want to capture it on TV. So there at the end, when I get down on one knee...

James: So was it really a surprise to her? Did you manage to keep it?

Sean: There were only two girls and of course, she thought she stood a pretty good chance but there was still...

James: Was the other girl pretty attractive to you too? I don't want to hurt your feelings, honey. But was she still pulling too a little bit?

Sean: Oh, yeah. She was a great girl and I definitely had developed some sort of feelings for her I just wasn't in love with her like I was with Catherine.

James: Did both of them like you?

Sean: Yes. It's safe to say yes.

[Laughter]

James: We'll say a little prayer for you here in a minute.

Sean: So I get down on one knee and I propose and 14 months later we get married on live TV.

James: Well, the thing that I think is so beautiful here is that she not only fell in love with you but she saw something in you that was deeper than just Sean, there was a spiritual dimension. She grew up with the Catholic heritage.

I want to say this, I think most of you know. Old James went to Rome and got the first papal high five in history. You know that; right? That's fact.

You say, "Why did you go?"

Because I love Catholics and I believe Catholics want to love and know Jesus and love one another and be a light; and I know this Pope wants that so we prayed together.

So your Catherine was a Catholic, is her heritage and yet she saw something in you so significant to her that she wanted to be immersed in that love. And although she had been -- I was christened -- I was christened Episcopalian, Betty was baptized Baptist. I told the Pope this. He thought it was pretty cool. I'm christened, she is baptized, and I said, "Neither one of us knew the Lord. We didn't know the Lord, sir. I got born again and she got born again. She had been a Baptist; came out the choir and gave her life to Christ. We had this nice session."

I started to tell him how I think a lot of Catholics don't know the Lord and he starts agreeing with me.

He starts preaching about how Catholics need to know Christ, be born again -- even priests, he said. "Everybody needs an encounter with Christ."

I said, "That deserves a high five!" He gave me one.

Here's the deal. She saw something in you so real that she actually -- your father actually baptized her. What happened?

Sean: Well, actually she'll tell you. My family came to Thailand at the end of the show and that's where I ended up proposing to Catherine. And she saw my family, my mom, my dad, my sister, and my brother-in-law and she said, "I want that." She could see Christ's love in our family.

James: Bigger than religion.

Sean: Much bigger than religion. She said, "I want that."

So shortly after the show she had to go back to Seattle and I had to go back to Dallas. Until the show was done airing we couldn't be together. So she started going to a non-denominational church up there in Seattle and she was seeking answers. And it wasn't long after that where she gave her life over to Christ.

James: Isn't that great? Don't you love the testimony? Do you want to say thanks to Sean for sharing it and being a witness and thank God for his testimony?

Listen -- *For All the Right Reasons*, I would say anybody, boy or girl, man or woman, wanting to strengthen your relationship, his story, it's a very great American story. It's kind of a dream story; it's a fairy tale come true. But it is so much greater than that, it's reality -- this is real reality, not make believe, not extreme but just this reality with God. Get the book.

As a matter of fact I would just say to you, you just help us give some people fresh clean water we'll send you the book if you'd like to have it, along with Betty's book, *Free to be Me*, which is such an incredible journey and a devotional where she takes you through some of the healing process after losing a daughter, which we did, toughest thing we've ever been through.

Here's what I want to do, Sean. I feel like I want to pray with people who are watching. I feel like there are young ladies watching, women -- some of you are married and things are not exactly right. You say, "Gosh, I wish my husband..." You can't make him that way.

Listen, sweetheart, you can't change your husband; that's what God has to do. You might ask him to watch this show.

Sir, listen to me. Listen, dad, husband, let the father show you how to be father. Let the one who knows how to love show you, God, I never had a father. The father is teaching me still but I want to be a good pupil. Let me just pray for you girls. Let me pray for you guys.

Father, I pray for every girl that has a longing in her heart for real love, for real meaning, for relationship that's special and precious, lasting and meaningful and joyful, where you can take the challenges together in the strength and power and confidence that love gives, and the peace that passes normal understanding, it is so supernatural. God, heal broken hearts and give girls conviction to seek the truth and give boys and men the biblical courage and strength to be real men of God, to sell out to you, in Jesus' name.

– and be witnesses. If you want someone to pray with you, the phone number is there to give you an opportunity to call and say, "I just gave my life to Christ" or "I want to commit my life to God. Pray with me." They'll agree with you.

Would you say thanks again to Sean for being such a witness?

Sean, one of the things that our viewers have done with us, literally, is try to put God's arms around a hurting world. I think you can sense even while I'm talking to girls or women or families, I want God to take them in his arms, I want him to heal their hurts.

Listen to me. There's a perfect healing and cure for some hurts. One of them is clean water where they only have contaminated, disease-ridden water. I want you to look at this and you're going to see some mothers who really have a heart cry and a prayer.

And I promise you this, I promise you -- you can be the perfect answer to their prayer right now.

On the mission field

Announcer: Is there anything more miraculous, more precious than God's gift of children? -- Remarkable and sometimes confusing little versions of ourselves. Yet so incredibly unique. We plan, sacrifice, stress, and pray over our decisions -- over their decisions, all that we want for them and the legacy we hope to leave. There is a breath of immortality in those generations that follow us. But that all assumes those generations don't end with us.

In Cambodia, what we encountered floored us. Mother after mother, who because of something as basic as water, had lost child after child. Contaminated water filled with disease, their only source.

Open captions:

>> I lost two children.

Announcer: In the villages we visited, it became harder to find mothers who had not lost a child to contaminated water than it was to find one who had.

Open captions:

>> I lost four children.

>> I lost five children.

Announcer: Our children are supposed to outlive us. These mothers have lost more children than the average American has even brought into this world.

Open captions:

>> I lost one child.

>> I lost three children.

>> I lost one child.

>> I lost five children.

>> I lost five children.

Announcer: Of all the things we, as parents, might struggle to provide for our children, it's unlikely that clean water is ever one of them. Why should it be any different for these mothers?

End of clip

In the studio

James: I feel like you've -- I feel like you've heard a still small voice. I think you've heard it clearly. Would you give clean water in Jesus' name? Betty, when I see the loss and I know that it can be immediately corrected by love, I can't even imagine every person watching not saying at least, "let me have a part."

Betty: James, I can't even imagine the heartache of a mother that knows that the water she's giving her babies could possibly kill them. But what can she do? They have to have water. They're thirsty. Day-by-day, every day, she goes and offers that water to her children knowing that she might lose one more child -- or more than that.

I hope you will join with us and let's drill the water wells because this is a solution that can save lives. If you will be a part of it, you will be so blessed as you give and share your heart of love with these children.

James: It is hard to imagine that anyone wouldn't have something as basic as clean water. Even here in the states people are buying a lot of water in bottles because they perceive that it might be a little bit more pure than even what is coming out of our tap, out of the faucet. We're almost fanatical for clean water. Nothing wrong with that but these children and their families have never had it. And you give them water because you have to have water to live a day, the next day, the next -- or die suddenly. But giving them the water, for many of them, they die slowly and painfully.

But we can correct it! So here's what we do it at *LIFE*, and when I say we, Betty and I give a well every time we drill, and to be honest with you, we normally give more

than a well because we ask God, we made it a major focus, show us how we can do it. We have found so many people who said, "We began to pray."

Do you realize that we have children -- we have children, some that are not even five or six years old that drill a well. You say, "How did they do it?" They started talking to everybody they knew. Some of them got permission to talk to their whole church and said, "Would you please help us drill a well?" And they would drill a well.

The point I'm making is that when it gets on your heart, when it really gets on your heart you can do it. So I want you, if you can drill a well, to drill a well. They're \$4800. Or if you could give a portion of a well, \$1200, three join you and we've got a well; \$2400, one person joins you and we've got a well. That's great! We pray you can do it. I pray you make it a goal.

But most people can't do that. And don't be apologetic. The majority of the resources to drill the well have come from gifts of \$48. That gives ten people, if you break it out, ten people water the rest of their life. Could you make a \$48 gift? -- \$144, three times that, 30 people.

We have gifts we want to send you to bless you. We're sending it to say thank you. You're not giving to get a gift. We're giving to you because we love you and want to bless you, give you the water of life; give them Water for Life, and tell them about the water of life -- show them first.

Would you dial the number right now? I think you want to. Almost feel like I wish you wanted to run to the phone. But you dial the number, take your bankcard, use it like a check or you can go online, LifeToday.org, use that card and make the gift now. If you do want to mail it in, make the check to *LIFE*. Make it to *LIFE* and then call us and tell us, "I'm sending this in" because we need to know.

We've targeted more than 12 countries, 500 wells; that's the goal this year. Do what you can; would you? Thank you for doing it. I don't want any more mothers to say, "I lost one." "I lost three." I want them to be able to say in a few years, "I didn't lose my babies! I didn't lose my children." And we're going to tell them about the love of God that prompted the gift you made and they will believe because they have seen it.

Thanks for making that call. Thanks for going online. Thanks for your gift.

Begin video clip

Announcer: Every day millions of children are forced to make a dreadful choice: drink filthy, polluted water filled with deadly disease or die from thirst. No child should ever be faced with this decision.

The good news is there is a solution! *Mission Water for Life* is one of the most exciting and viable demonstrations of God's love in the world today. Suffering can end because clean water changes everything.

With your gift today we can establish and drill 500 water wells for remote villages in over 12 different nations. Your gift of \$24 will help provide clean water for 5 people. A gift of \$48 will help provide for 10 people; \$72 will impact 15 people. And \$144 will help provide fresh, clean, disease-free water for 30 people for a lifetime!

With your gift you'll receive the brand-new *Free to Be Me* 40-day devotional where Betty shares the challenges, victories, and insights God gave her while struggling through fear and insecurity. You'll also receive Betty's book, *Free to Be Me*. With your gift of \$100 or more you may request *LIFE's* inspirational coffee mug set featuring encouraging quotes and scripture to brighten your mornings for years to come!

Finally, please consider a gift of \$1,200 to help provide water for 250 people or a gift of \$4,800 to help sponsor a complete well. And request this beautifully framed canvas print of "The Forest Chapel" by the Painter of Light TM, Thomas Kinkade.

Please call, write, or make your gift online today!

End of clip

In the studio

James: From the depth of our heart we say thank you.

And to every girl that wishes you could meet a Sean, you just have no idea, I just told the audience here how much I want there to be a whole lot of Seans. Why don't you be one? Every one of you young guys, not only be the nice guy, how about be in-love-with-God guy. If you'd like to have the book, you help us give water, we just say thank you and send it to you. Or you can get it, Amazon, in the bookstores, online; and I think you'll be glad you did.

How about saying thanks to Sean again? Thank you for being here. Thank you so much. Thanks for helping us! Tell your friends to watch *LIFE Today*. They might meet a Sean! Thank you!